

Message Text

PAGE 01 BANGKO 14198 111313Z

45

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
----- 060201

R 111202Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6464
INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

S E C R E T BANGKOK 14198

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: IBMND

REF: BANGKOK 12512 (EXDIS)

1. SUMMARY: RECENT PRESS REPORTS THAT THE RTG HAS TAKEN SOME INITIATIVES AGAINST IBMND ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND CAPS A LONG SERIES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. WHILE THERE IS TRUTH TO THESE REPORTS, THE IBMND CONTINUES TO OPERATE, ALBEIT PERHAPS ON A SOMEWHAT REDUCED SCALE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH THE RTG. END SUMMARY..

2. THE "BANGKOK POST" PRINTED A FRONT PAGE STORY BY TREH CHONGKHADIKIJ SEPTEMBER 3 STATING THAT PRIME MINISTER THANOM KITTIKACHORN AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIEN HAVE ORDERED THE SUPREME COMMAND TO STOP THE IBMND FROM FURTHER OPERATIONS AGAINST THE PRC. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THE RTG WILL ASK THE GRC TO TAKE HOME THE UNIT'S 1600 MEN HEADQUARTERED IN MAE CHAN DISTRICT, CHIANG RAI PROVINCE. A 10-KILOWATT RADIO STATION LOCATED AT SUAN SAK, ABOUT 20 KILOMERERS FROM THE IBMND HEADQUARTERS, WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CONTOLE OF THE SUPREME COMMAND. A BRIEF ARTICLE IN THE
SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 14198 111313Z

SEPTEMBER 7 "BANGKOK POST" STATES THAT, ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL SOURCE, THE NATIONAL SECURITY CENTRAL COMMAND AND NOTH THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS AS REPORTED EARLIER, OPERATES RADIO STATION 914 AT SUAN SAK.

3. THE ABOVE ARTICLE IS THE MOST RECENT IN A SERIES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MANIFESTATIONS OF RTG DECISIONS OR INTENTIONS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE IBMND. SOME PREVIOUS MANIFESTATIONS WERE:

A. DURING AN AUGUST 9 CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, PRAPHAT SAID THAT THE RTG-ROC AGREEMENT TO ALLOW IBMND TRANSIT OF THAILAND HAD BEEN CANCELLED IN APRIL 1971. PRAPHAT ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE IBMND HAD BEEN ASKED TO MOVE OUT, AND THAT IF ANY IBMND AGENTS WERE TRANSITING THAILAND, THEY WERE DOING SO WITHOUT RTG KNOWLEDGE (REFTEL). (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE RTG DID WITHDRAW PERMISSION FOR THE KMT SECOND SECTION TO OPERATE IN THAILAND AND LIMITED THE NUMBER OF IBMND PERSONNEL IN THAILAND TO FIFTY, THE IBMND ABSORBED THE SECOND SECTION, THEREBY EVADING THE ORDER. PRAPHAT MAY HAVE CONFUSED THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS, OR MAY BE DELIBERATELY CREATING OBFUSCATION.)

B. THE "BANGKOK POST" CARRIED ANOTHER THEH CHONGKHADIKIJ STORY JULY 2 STATING THAT ACCORDING TO A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL THE RTG HAD "ORDERED A NATIONALIST CHINESE INTELLIGENCE CORPS OPERATING FROM THE NORTHERN BORDER INTO THE CHINA MAINLAND TO CEASE ACTIVITIES". THE ARTICLE NAMED PARPHAT AS THE SOURCE OF THE ORDER.

C. "THE NATION" CARRIED A VAGUELY SOURCED STORY ON MAY 8 FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN CHIANG RAI THAT THE IBMND RADIO STATION WOULD BE CLOSED.

D. THE SUPREME COMMAND CHIEF OF STAFF, AIR CHIEF MARSHAL DAWE CHULLSAAPYA, AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF SUPREME COMMAND FORWARD, LT. GEN. KRAINGSAK CHOMANAN, AS EARLY AS 2 DECEMBER 1970 INFORMED THE GRC AMBASSADOR THAT EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THE GRC INTELLIGENCE UNITS WERE TO LEAVE THAILAND IN ACCORDANCE
SECRET

PAGE 03 BANGKO 14198 111313Z

WITH A DECISION MADE BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL.

4. THE MOST RECENT STORIES CONCERNING AN RTG MOVE AGAINST THE IBMND HAVE APPARENTLY CAUSED CONCERN AMONG IBMND CIRCLES IN THAILAND. THE CONSUL IN CHIANG MAI REPORTED THAT A CHIANG RAI MERCHANT WITH LONG-STANDING IBMND CONTACTS SAID IN EARLY AUGUST THAT, WHILE NOTHING HAD HAPPENED BECAUSE OF THE ORDERS FOR THE IBMND TO CEASE OPERATIONS AS REPORTED IN THE NEWSPAPERS, THE IBMND WAS GIVING THOUGHT TO ITS ACTIONS SHOULD SUCH ORDERS MATERIALIZE. DURING A VISIT TO THE IBMND BASE AT HUAI MO LAST OCTOBER, IBMND GENERAL YEH TOLD STAFF MEMBERS TO BEGIN ACQUIRING THAI DOCUMENTATION SINCE DIPLOMATIC AND

OFFICIAL PASSPORTS WOULD NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. ANOTHER SOURCE REPORTED A MONTH EARLIER THAT THE IBMND WOULD GO UNDERGROUND IF DETENTE BETWEEN THE PRC AND RTG FORCED THE RTG TO REQUEST THE IBMND'S REMOVAL.

5. COMMENT: GIVEN THEH CHONGKHADIKIJ'S OBVIOUS GOOD CONNECTIONS, THANOM AND PRAPHAT PROBABLY DID SAY SOMETHING TO THE SUPREME COMMAND HEADQUARTERS ABOUT THE IBMND, AS REPORTED IN THE SEPTEMBER 3 "BANGKOK POST" ARTICLE. IN VIEW OF THE EARLIER ARTICLES REPORTING RTG DECISIONS TO OUST THE IBMDN, HOWEVER, THE QUESTION IS WHAT WILL ACTUALLY BE DONE. WE WILL BE ALERT FOR ANY SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE IBMND'S OPERATIONAL ENVIRONXNNT IN NORTH THAILAND.

6. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION FURTHER SEPTEMBER 21 WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM EMBASSIES RANGOON, TAIPEI, AND VIENTIANE. WE WILL ALSO FOLLOWUP THE AMBASSADOR'S AUGUST 9 APPROACH TO PRAPHAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER RTG OFFICIALS. UNGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO14198
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750011-1339
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730963/abqceflb.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: BANGKOK 12512 (EXDIS)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <13-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IBMND
TAGS: SNAR, PFOR, TH
To: STATE INFO RANGOON
TAIPEI
CHIANG MAI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005